



Ward Notification

Tucson Fire Department

Fire Chief Patrick Kelly



Contact: Captain Trish Tracy
(520) 410-1901 Pager

Date: March 7, 2009

Ward 1 – Building Fire – 1200 Block of West Speedway

March 6, 2009

Dispatch Time – 1941

On-Scene Time – 1945

Fire Under Control – 2037

Three children and two staff members evacuated safely from a dorm, at the Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind (ASDB), after a fire started in the roof area and spread to the attic. It was windy outside, the barbeque was hot, and hot embers landed on the roof and started the fire. Firefighters arrived on scene to find smoke coming from under the roof tiles, fire in the attic space, and nobody inside the building. Additional units were called because of the life safety issue in a facility like this. Sixteen units and fifty firefighters extinguished the flames in 52 minutes.

No injuries occurred. On weekdays fourteen people occupy this dorm, but on weekends only five are present. All students and staff will be housed in a different building on campus until repairs can be completed.

Cause – Accidental – barbeque left unattended

Damage estimate - \$200,000 – most rafters and structural damage

Safety Message: Smoke detectors, escape plans, and monthly fire drills are extremely important and are probably the reason nobody was hurt from this fire. At this complex, every building has a fire alarm system, with audible and visible alert systems, and staff members present to assist with evacuation. Fire drills are practiced monthly and every building has a designated meeting place.